MEMORANDUM

DATE: 02/05/2019

TO: Bilal Qazzaz, QA Coordinator
            Air Monitoring and Analysis Section, US EPA Region 5

FROM: Justin G. Coughlin, Project Manager
            Air Monitoring and Analysis Section, U.S. EPA Region 5

SUBJECT: Addition of a Quality Assurance Qualifier to the D.3 Xact Monitoring AQS Null
            Data Codes Table to Address Qualified Data During Government Shutdown

The purpose of this memorandum is to add an additional data code in Table D.3 of the *Quality Assurance Project Plan (Version 1.0) Hammond, Indiana, Semi-Continuous Metals Monitoring* signed on October 16th, 2018 by US EPA Region 5 staff. The federal government was shut down from December 28, 2018 until January 28, 2019, and during this period, manual quality control activities outlined in the QAPP were unable to be performed. Although, these activities were not conducted, other activities such as the nightly quality control checks, were performed.

A new data code, "QY" will be used as a "Quality Assurance Qualifier" for instances when the monitor has recorded routine data with automated quality control activities (i.e., nightly QC checks) that meet the acceptance criteria thus rendering the data of acceptable quality, but the routine data collected does not meet all of the QA activities outlined within the QAPP due to limitations outside of personnel control.

In addition, the "QY" may also be used in instances when data does not meet acceptable ranges outlined in the *Standard Operating Procedure for the Operation of the Xact 625 Semi-Continuous Metals Monitoring Trailer* (R5-ARD-0001-r2) signed on December 11th, 2018 but is believed to be of acceptable quality. Within the SOP's Table 4: Data Validation Table, it is noted that some data should be qualified when outside the acceptable ranges, and this new qualifier will be used in that instance as well. Data that is required to be invalidated when outside the acceptable ranges (e.g., sample relative humidity is below 75%), according to Table 4: Data Validation Table in the SOP, will be invalidated.

Additionally, other AQS qualifiers that are not contained within the QAPP may be used when found to be applicable to certain instances.